



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 19 2012

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Larry Morgan
108 Shadow Lodge Circle
Pearl, MS 39208-3917

Dear Mr. Morgan,

Thank you for your December 12, 2011 email letter to US EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. You requested that EPA create regulations for dispersants that protect communities, response workers and the environment. I am pleased to respond on her behalf.

Regulations governing toxicity and efficacy testing, listing and use of dispersants are already in place in Subpart J of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (NCP). However, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is in the process of revising these requirements. We are evaluating new toxicity tests and listing criteria, chemical component disclosure, and the requirements governing appropriate use of dispersants on oil spills. The rulemaking process takes time not only to investigate the science and technical issues such as those you raised in your letter but to use that science to inform the policies used to revise the regulation. EPA expects to publish the proposed revisions to Subpart J for public review and comment Spring 2012.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have any questions about the Subpart J rulemaking, you are welcome to contact Craig Matthiessen, Director of OEM's Regulation and Policy Development Division at 202-564-8016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Stanton", is positioned above the typed name.

Lawrence M. Stanton, Director
Office of Emergency Management